

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 06492 181459Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 ICA-11 AID-05 EB-08 NSC-05
TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-07 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 DOE-15 SOE-02 /110 W
-----029774 191015Z /11

R 181340Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2911
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
USINT HAVANA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KINGSTON 6492

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: CARICOM, ECIN, ETRD, JM
SUBJECT: FURTHER ON CARICOM

REF: (A) KINGSTON 6153, (B) KINGSTON 6213

1. POSITIVE: IN DISCUSSION WITH ECON OFFICER, MFA
ECONOMIC DIVISION OFFICIAL DENNIS GAYLE CONFIRMED THAT
GOJ VIEW OF RECENT CARICOM MINISTERIAL WA THAT IT WAS
A POSITIVE EVENT AND SUSTAINED THE ORGANIZATION EVEN
THOUGH LITTLE WAS REALLY ACCOMPLISHED. THE GOJ WAS HAPPY
TO BE ABLE TO INCREASE ITS QUOTA FOR CARICOM IMPORTS
AFTER THE SEVERE RESTRICTIONS IN 1977. THE JAMAICA DOLLAR
AMOUNTS INVOLVED FOR 1978, HOWEVER, COMPARE FAVORABLY
WITH THE 1976 QUOTAS ONLY IN NOMINAL TERMS, GIVEN JAMAICA'S
SIGNIFICANT DEVALUATIONS SINCE THEN. NONETHELESS, THE RE-OPENING OF
THE JAMAICAN MARKET, THE LARGEST IN CARICOM, IS A DECIDED
BOOST FOR REGIONAL TRADE. MR. GAYLE ALSO NOTED WITH
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PLEASURE THE SUCCESSFUL BARBADIAN TRADE MISSION HERE
SHORTLY AFTER THE MINISTERIAL (SEE REF B) AS THE FIRST
RESULT OF GREATER ACCESS TO THE JAMAICAN MARKET.

2. NEGATIVE: MR. GAYLE NOTED THE EXTREME DISAPPOINTMENT
OF CARICOM MEMBERS WITH GUYANA'S CONTINUING INABILITY
TO EASE ITS RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS. HOWEVER, THE

HARDEST FEELINGS ARE REPORTEDLY DIRECTED BY TRINIDAD
AGAINST JAMAICA WITH THE FORMER STILL RESENTFUL OF
JAMAICA'S EARLIER ACTIONS WHICH REDUCED TRINIDADIAN EXPORTS
IN SENSITIVE INDUSTRIES, E.G. CLOTHING. MR. GAYLE
ATTRIBUTED TO TRINIDAD'S ILL WILL, TOWARD JAMAICA PARTICULARLY,
THE JUST ANNOUNCED INDEFINITE POSTPOIEMENT OF THE CARICOM
FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR THE
END OF AUGUST. ONE CONSEQUENCE IS THE FURTHER DELAY IN
SELECTING A NEW CARICOM SECRETARY GENERAL. WITH THE
DEPARTURE OF ACTING SECGEN JOSEPH A TYNDALL TO ASSUME A
MINISTERIAL PORTFOLIO IN GUYANA (SEE GEORGETOWN 2539),
CARICOM LEGAL ADVISOR CARL DUNDASS IS NOW THE ACTING CHIEF
OF THE ORGANIZATION.
HAVERKAMP

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KINGST06492
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780339-1388
Format: TEL
From: KINGSTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780850/aaaabozt.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c8f86f61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 KINGSTON 6153, 78 KINGSTON 6213
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1699834
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FURTHER ON CARICOM
TAGS: ECIN, ETRD, JM, XL, CARICOM
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c8f86f61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014